



An investigation of the ways in which public health nutrition policy and practices can address climate change

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Abstract:

OBJECTIVE: To develop a framework to guide action in the public health nutrition workforce to develop policies and practices addressing factors contributing to climate change. **DESIGN:** Action/consultative research. **SETTING:** Interviews - South Australia, questionnaire - Australia. **SUBJECTS:** Interviews - key informants (n 6) were from various government, academic and non-government positions, invited through email. Questionnaire - participants were members of the public health nutrition workforce (n 186), recruited to the study through emails from public health nutrition contacts for each State in Australia (with the exception of South Australia). **RESULTS:** Support by participants for climate change as a valid role for dietitians and nutritionists was high (78 %). However, climate change was ranked low against other public health nutrition priorities. Support of participants to conduct programmes to address climate change from professional and work organisations was low. The final framework developed included elements of advocacy/lobbying, policy, professional recognition/support, organisational support, knowledge/skills, partnerships and programmes. **CONCLUSIONS:** This research demonstrates a need for public health nutrition to address climate change, which requires support by organisations, policy, improved knowledge and increased professional development opportunities.

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Resource Description

Communication:

resource focus on research or methods on how to communicate or frame issues on climate change; surveys of attitudes, knowledge, beliefs about climate change

A focus of content

Communication Audience:

audience to whom the resource is directed

Health Professional, Policymaker

Exposure :

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Food/Water Security

Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal

Food/Water Security: Nutritional Quality

Geographic Feature: ☒

resource focuses on specific type of geography

None or Unspecified

Geographic Location: ☒

resource focuses on specific location

Non-United States

Non-United States: Australasia

Health Impact: ☒

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Malnutrition/Undernutrition

Intervention: ☒

strategy to prepare for or reduce the impact of climate change on health

A focus of content

Medical Community Engagement: ☒

resource focus on how the medical community discusses or acts to address health impacts of climate change

A focus of content

Mitigation/Adaptation: ☒

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation

Population of Concern: A focus of content

Population of Concern: ☒

populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts

Low Socioeconomic Status

Resource Type: ☒

format or standard characteristic of resource

Research Article

Timescale: ☒

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified

Vulnerability/Impact Assessment: ☒



resource focus on process of identifying, quantifying, and prioritizing vulnerabilities in a system

A focus of content